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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/755,740	01/05/2001	Bob Lord	PD99-2930	3744

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

16

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,740

Applicant(s)

LORD ET AL.

Examiner

Le Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 4/16/04, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED.

New grounds of rejection are set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

- (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
- (2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

2. Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 13, 20 and 27 are independent claims. This action is made non-final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banning and Screen Dumps of Microsoft Windows NT ("MS Win").

As per claim 1, Although Banning teaches a means of transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer (col. 5, lines 28-61) and a system for displaying information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein a viewable subset of the objects is displayed on a display device connected to the client computer in the form of a navigable pane on the display device, the system comprising a tree descriptor array comprising information describing each of the objects to be displayed in the navigation pane (figs. 4B-4C; *tree data displayed*), a tree descriptor string comprising information describing a hierarchical structure of expanded nodes in the tree wherein the tree descriptor string comprises a list of only those nodes which are to be expanded and displayed on the display device (col. 5, line 5 through col. 6, line 24; col. 7, line 37 through col. 8, line 6; figs. 4B-4C; col. 7, lines 14-25; *a representation of TDA and TDS and rendered in pane 104 as a tree view, displaying nodes which are to be expanded and displayed wherein TDS comprises a list of only those nodes which are to be expanded and displayed by such methods as limiting the amount of expansion to a certain number of siblings; moreover, inherent to the tree topology is a tree descriptor string in order for the tree to be displayed*), Banning does not explicitly disclose the transferred information to be the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects. MS Win teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer (fig. 1; *share drive 100, "S:\Ortiz Oacs"*), the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects wherein a viewable subset of the objects is displayed on a display device connected to the client computer in the form of a navigable pane on the display device (fig. 1, *pane 110*), the system comprising a tree descriptor array comprising information describing each of the objects to be displayed in the navigation pane, a tree descriptor string

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comprising information describing a hierarchical structure of expanded nodes in the tree wherein the tree descriptor array and the tree descriptor string are sent from the server to the client computer and wherein the tree descriptor string comprises a list of only those nodes which are to be expanded and displayed on the display device (fig. 1; *MS Win allows users the ability to add information and have tree data displayed such as tree 120 comprising of only those nodes which are to be expanded wherein a tree descriptor string is inherent in order for the tree to be displayed*). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include MS Win's method of transferred information to include a plurality of hierarchically related objects with Banning's method of transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer and a system for displaying information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects in order to provide other users of the network access to the information.

As per claims 2 and 3, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein a viewable subset of the objects is displayed on a display device connected to the client computer in the form of a navigable pane on the display device, the system including a managed object list comprising an entry for each of a plurality of managed objects in the navigable tree and a view list comprising a plurality of indicia of object data record, each of which represents a child of one of the managed objects corresponding to an entry in the managed object list wherein each of the entry in the managed object list comprises indicia of an entry in the view list and wherein each one of the object data record include information comprising an inherent Universal Identifier for the object to which a

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given one of the indicia of object data records corresponds and a Universal Identifier for the parent of the object to which a given one of the indicia of object data records corresponds (Banning: fig. 4B; *Network 112 contains more than one managed objects with a list of objects specific to a managed object such as "Fs1", "Fs3" and "Share" wherein an identifier for each node, parent or child, is inherent for referencing purposes*).

As per claim 4, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein a viewable subset of the objects is displayed on a display device connected to the client computer in the form of a navigable pane on the display device, the system wherein the tree descriptor array comprises information for each object in the viewable subset of the objects to be displayed, including a Universal Identifier of the object, a first index indicating the relative position of the object in the navigable tree, at which a tree segment starts and a second index indicating the relative tree position of the object from its managed object (Banning: figs. 4B; *rendered in pane 104 is a view of a tree with objects 112, 114 and Fs1 being in a position relative to each other and reflecting the relationship relative to each other wherein the index of each object is inherent for addressing purposes and wherein an identifier for each node, parent or child, is inherent for referencing purposes*).

As per claims 5 and 6, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein a viewable subset of the objects is displayed on a display device connected to the client computer in the form of a navigable pane on the display device, the system wherein the tree descriptor array comprises a first string indicating

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whether the object is expandable and a second string indicating whether the object is presently expanded wherein the tree descriptor string further comprises a representation of the hierarchical structure of open containers in the part of the tree that is being displayed (Banning: col. 2, lines 6-24; figs. 4B-4C *a representation of TDA, rendered in pane 104 as a view of a tree, with indicators '+' and '-'*).

As per claim 7, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein the tree descriptor string further comprises indicia of the location of a cursor on the display device (Banning: col. 4, lines 23-24).

As per claim 8, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein the tree descriptor string further comprises indicia of the state of nodes in the displayed segment of the navigation tree including whether a node comprising a folder is open (Banning: col. 2, lines 6-24; figs. 4B-4C *with indicators '+' and '-'*).

As per claims 9 and 10, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein the client computer uses information in the tree descriptor string to render a view that includes one said expanded nodes and wherein the client computer uses information in the tree descriptor array to render a view that includes the expandable nodes which are to be expanded (Banning: figs. 4B-4C; *depicted are elements 112, 114, 116 and 118, which are expanded, and elements "3 1/2 Floppy [A:]" and "Hard drive [C:]", which are to be expanded*).

As per claim 11, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein, in response to a user of the client computer clicking on one of the expandable nodes, the client computer sends information via the tree descriptor string to the server identifying the node to be expanded (Banning: col. 6, line 48 through col. 7, line 13).

As per claim 12, the modified Banning teaches a system for transferring information in a computer network from a server to a client computer, the information including a plurality of hierarchically related objects, wherein the list contained in the tree descriptor string contains a list of those expandable nodes which are to be expanded and displayed on the display device (Banning: fig. 4B; *element "Fs2" of "Network" node*).

Claims 13, 20 and 27 are individually similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 14 and 15 in combination is similar in scope to the combination of claims 2 and 3 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 16 and 21 are individually similar in scope to claim 4 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 17 and 22 are individually similar in scope to claim 5 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 18 and 23 are individually similar in scope to claim 6 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

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Claims 19 and 24 are individually similar in scope to claim 7 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 25 is similar in scope to claim 8 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 26 is similar in scope to claim 11 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Inquires

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê whose telephone number is (703) 305-7601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

LVN
Patent Examiner
June 29, 2004

Kristine Kincaid
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